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invention can implement the readout of manuscripts such as magazines as well as fingerprints. Therefore, the present invention can further implement the readout of URLs and the like or business cards.--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-6 as follows:

1. (Amended) An apparatus for implementing readout of a fingerprint, comprising:

a transparent upper base plate having a contact surface that is touched during use by a fingertip of a person;

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a light source for irradiating the contact surface with light such that a portion of the light is reflected when the fingertip touches the contact surface;

an equal magnification lens for forming an image of the person's fingerprint based on the reflected light with equal magnification;

an image sensor having an image pickup surface comprised of a plurality of photoreceptors linearly disposed thereon for detecting the image of the fingerprint;

a lower base plate for holding the image sensor in a fixed position relative to the equal magnification lens; and

a housing for holding the transparent base plate, the light source, the equal magnification lens, and the upper and lower base plates.

2. (Amended) An apparatus for implementing readout of a fingerprint according to claim 1; wherein the angle of reflection of the reflected light with respect to the fingertip is larger than or approximately equal to the angle of incidence of the light emitted by the light source onto the contact surface.

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3. (Amended) An apparatus for implementing readout of a fingerprint according to claim 1; wherein the image pickup surface of the image sensor has a plurality of photoreceptors arranged in rows, and a length of the respective rows is more than ten times larger than a length of columns of the photoreceptors.

4. (Amended) An apparatus for implementing readout of a fingerprint according to claim 1; wherein the light source is composed of LEDs of two or more colors.

5. (Amended) An apparatus for implementing readout of a fingerprint according to claim 1; wherein the image sensor is formed of amorphous silicon.

6. (Amended) An apparatus for implementing readout of a fingerprint according to claim 1; wherein the angle of incidence of the light irradiated by the light source onto the contact surface is smaller than or approximately equal to the angle of reflection of the reflected light.

Kindly add the following new claims 7-14:

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7. A fingerprint detector comprising: a housing; a transparent plate disposed in the housing; a light source disposed in the housing for irradiating the transparent plate with light such that a portion of the light is reflected when a fingertip touches the contact surface; an image sensor disposed in the housing to receive the reflected light and having a plurality of linearly-arranged photosensors; and a lower base plate disposed in the housing for holding the image sensor.

8. A fingerprint detector according to claim 7; further comprising a lens for forming an image of the fingerprint based on the reflected light.

9. A fingerprint detector according to claim 8; wherein the lens has an equal magnification.

10. A fingerprint detector according to claim 7; wherein the angle of reflection of the reflected light is equal to or larger than the angle of incidence of the light emitted by the light source onto the transparent plate.

11. A fingerprint detector according to claim 7; wherein the photosensors of the image sensor are arranged in a plurality of rows, and a length of the respective rows is more

than ten times larger than a length of columns of the photosensors.

12. A fingerprint detector according to claim 7; wherein the light source is comprised of LEDs of two colors or more.

13. A fingerprint detector according to claim 7; wherein the image pickup device is formed of amorphous silicon.

14. A fingerprint detector according to claim 7; wherein the angle of incidence of the light irradiated by the light source onto the transparent plate is equal to or smaller than the angle of reflection of the reflected light.

ADDITIONAL FEES:

No additional fees are believed required; however, should it be determined that a fee is due, authorization is hereby given to charge any such fee to our Deposit Account No. 01-0268.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Delete the abstract now of record and insert therefor the new abstract submitted herewith on a separate sheet.